

Tribal Roundtable

9/20/23 Meeting Notes

Present:

Brenda Sampe and Ivey Tupponce, VDSS

Anna Tyson, Director, Family Match Tool, Adoption-share

Gay Plungas, Contract Administrator for Child Advocacy Centers, VDSS

Amy Simpson, VP of Programs, Adoption-share, for FFH

Monica Cabell, Youth Programs Specialist, VDSS

Nicole Shipp, Protection Policy Specialist, VDSS

Yvonne Epps-Giddings, Nottoway Indian Tribe

Eric Reynolds, Director, Office of the Children's Ombudsman

Lindsey Johnson, Deputy Tribal Administrator, Chickahominy Indian Tribe

Kimberly Murphy, Children's Bureau

Chief Steve Adkins, Chickahominy Indian Tribe

Susann Brown, Child Care Director, Chickahominy Indian Tribe

Chief Walt "Red Hawk" Brown, Cheroenhaka (Nottoway) Indian Tribe

Kayla Locklear, Assistant Project Director, Chickahominy Indian Tribe - Eastern Division

Faster Families Highway, Anna and Amy

- Increase resource family pool in Virginia
- Families are being recruited and approved
- Internet-based to start so it's flexible and provides a faster connection point for families
- No targeted ask yet for members of tribes but have potential to target communities with tribal affiliation to better serve families from tribes
- Will have 2 families soon approved in Chesterfield and Fredericksburg
- Be more strategic
- Chief Brown: agency should be reaching out to the tribe once they know that child/family is affiliated with a tribe.
- Yvonne: fact that they are approved doesn't mean that they can be a placement; if exhausted their resources; looking for a placement for a child? Ivey: we would be one of the resources if tribe has exhausted the resources. Ivey: our role would be to connect to the LDSS who have approved that family. Yvonne: clear-cut flow so that tribal leaders know, step 1, 2 and 3 or not left dangling in the breeze – so they have reassurance that there will be viable families. Ivey: that is the exact feedback needed.

- Chief Brown: get names of their tribes; need approved; submit names of applicable tribes; affiliated
- Yvonne: focused recruitment on Native families; preferably the VA tribes
- Ivey: can get a private tutorial for FFH
- Chief Brown: **agency needs to verify the enrollment of the tribe** – cannot just go by what is said either through the FFH or from the perspective parent

CAC Presentation – Gay Plungas

Human Trafficking – Nicole Shipp

- Sex and labor trafficking is included in Human Trafficking description: juvenile required to perform a sexual act or work or provide labor that they are not compensated for and forced to do it.
- Legislative change: doesn't have to be in a "caretaker role" to be a trafficker and validate a report
- The assessment is not an assessment tool, it's a process; a prevention response; short-term intervention
- Focus on services, so jurisdiction is typically where youth/family reside
- Chief Brown asked about the data, was it just for VA? Nicole: it is VA data from child welfare system is likely underreported when talking to the state

Chafee/Independent Living Programs – Monica Cabell

- b/c youth in foster care are vulnerable, help with credit checks and freezes
- gather feedback from youth
- youth in or formerly in FC have their voice
- Chafee/ETV programs: data shows youth who transition out of FC have poorer outcomes
- Chief Brown: asked about mentoring service. Monica: pay for a mentoring service (company or agency) or can pay for supplies to provide those IL skills to those youth
- Chief Brown: Chafee/ETV – is this only for federally recognized tribes? Monica: it's federal funding, but not sure. Monica will clarify

Updates

Chief Brown: Indian "Corn Harvest" Powwow and School Day on November 3, 4 and 5 in Courtland; Native American revival/healing circle this weekend – prayer song with native song (12pm-2pm); Chief Brown is the guest evangelist. Chief Brown thanked everyone for the work we are doing.

Susann Brown: The 71st Pow Wow – Chickahominy Indian Tribe is this weekend; free admission/parking; join if you can!



VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF
SOCIAL SERVICES

Quarterly Roundtable with Virginia's Tribes

September 20, 2023



Agenda

- **Faster Families Highway Update**
- **Chafee/Independent Living Overview**
- **Child Advocacy Center (CAC) Information**
- **Human Trafficking Information**
- **Other Updates**

Introductions

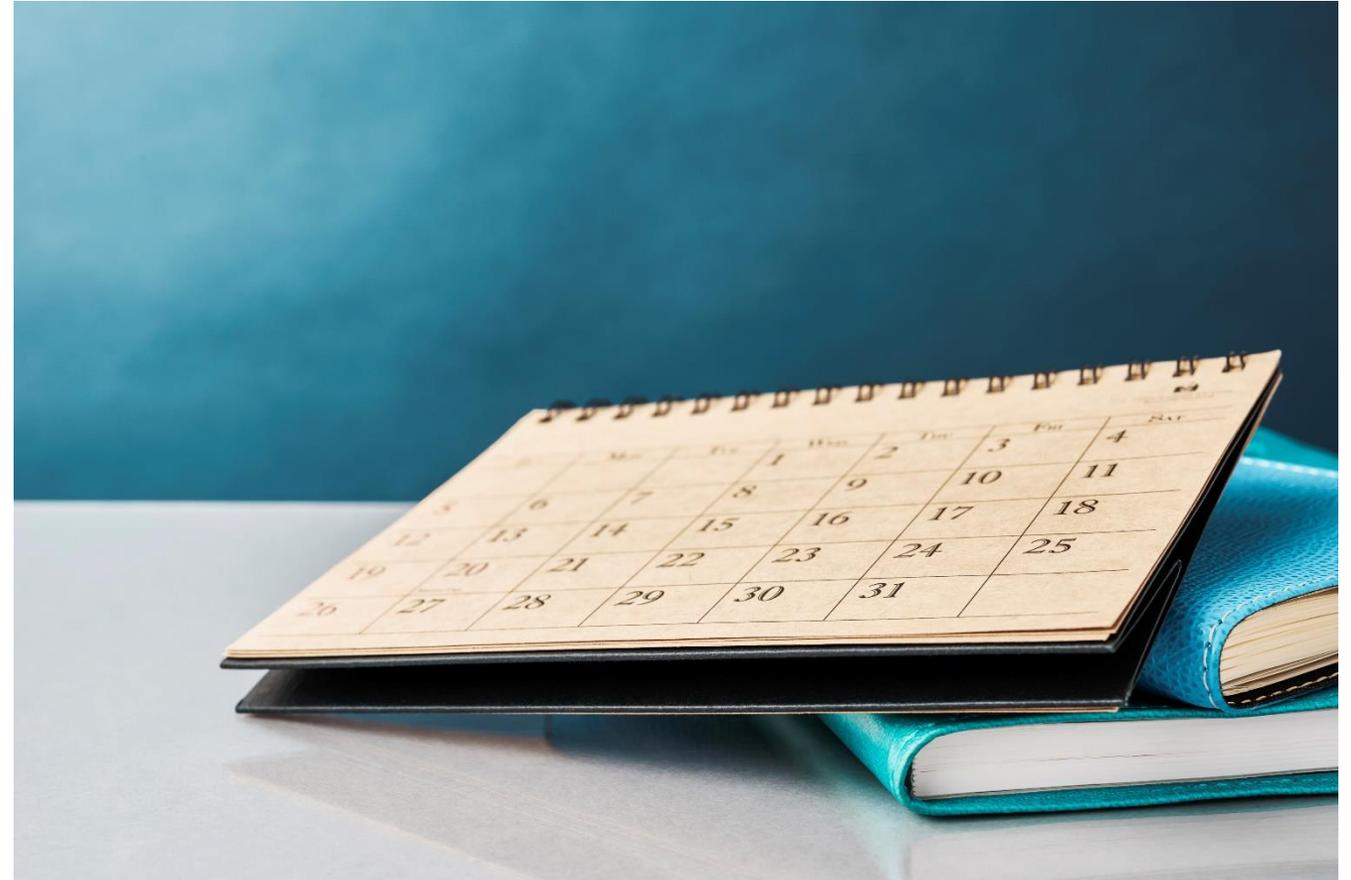


Other Updates?



Next Meeting

December 13, 2023, 11am-
12:30pm



**FASTER FAMILIES
HIGHWAY FOR**
Recruitment
powered by **adoption-share**

RECRUITMENT RE-IMAGINED

A PARTNERSHIP WITH VDSS



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SOCIAL SERVICES

Important Points

Adoption-Share is a non profit technology organization leveraging tech to create and sustain families.

Adoption-Share does not train, approve, or manage resource families. We do not make placement decisions or manage foster care placements.

Faster Families Highway for Recruitment is a web based tool provided by VDSS for localities to increase its pool of locally approved families.

THE NEED

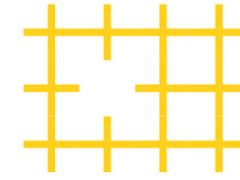
In Virginia, *approved* foster parents play a vital role- serving the families of children in foster care by preserving family connections and allowing children to remain connected to their community and natural supports.

THE SOLUTION

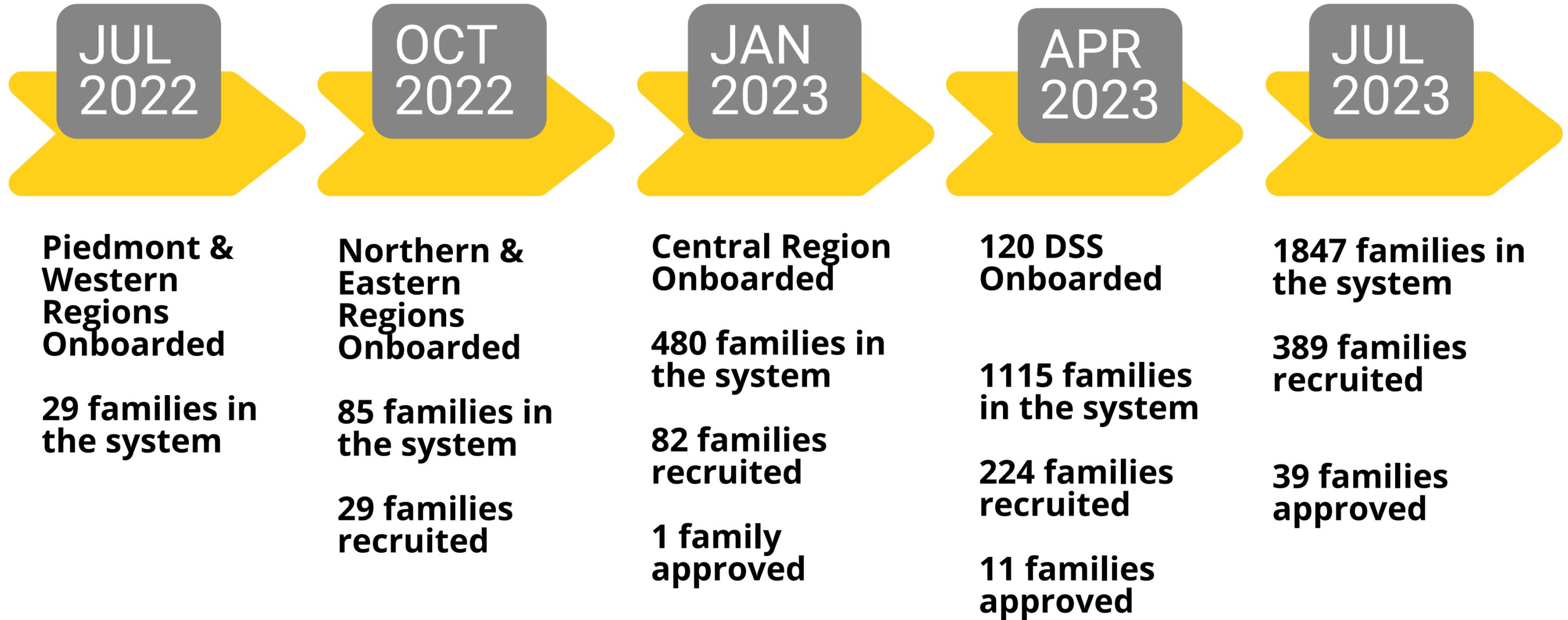
A centralized, data driven recruitment tool that offers VDSS and LDSS the opportunity to sustain general, targeted and child specific recruitment strategies to increase the pool of locally approved resource families across Virginia.



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Program Milestones



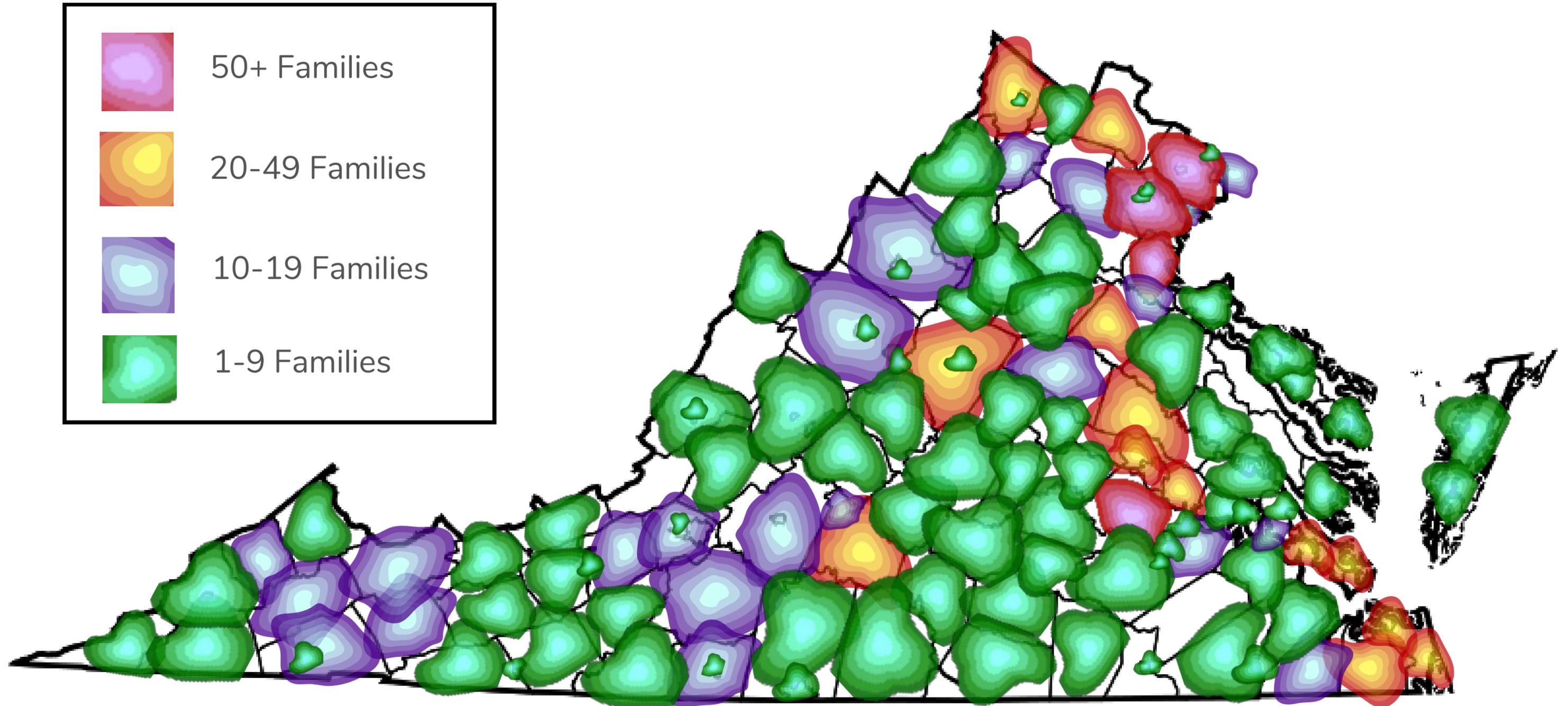
To date

2127

families have registered for an account on the Faster Families Highway since its launch in April 2022.

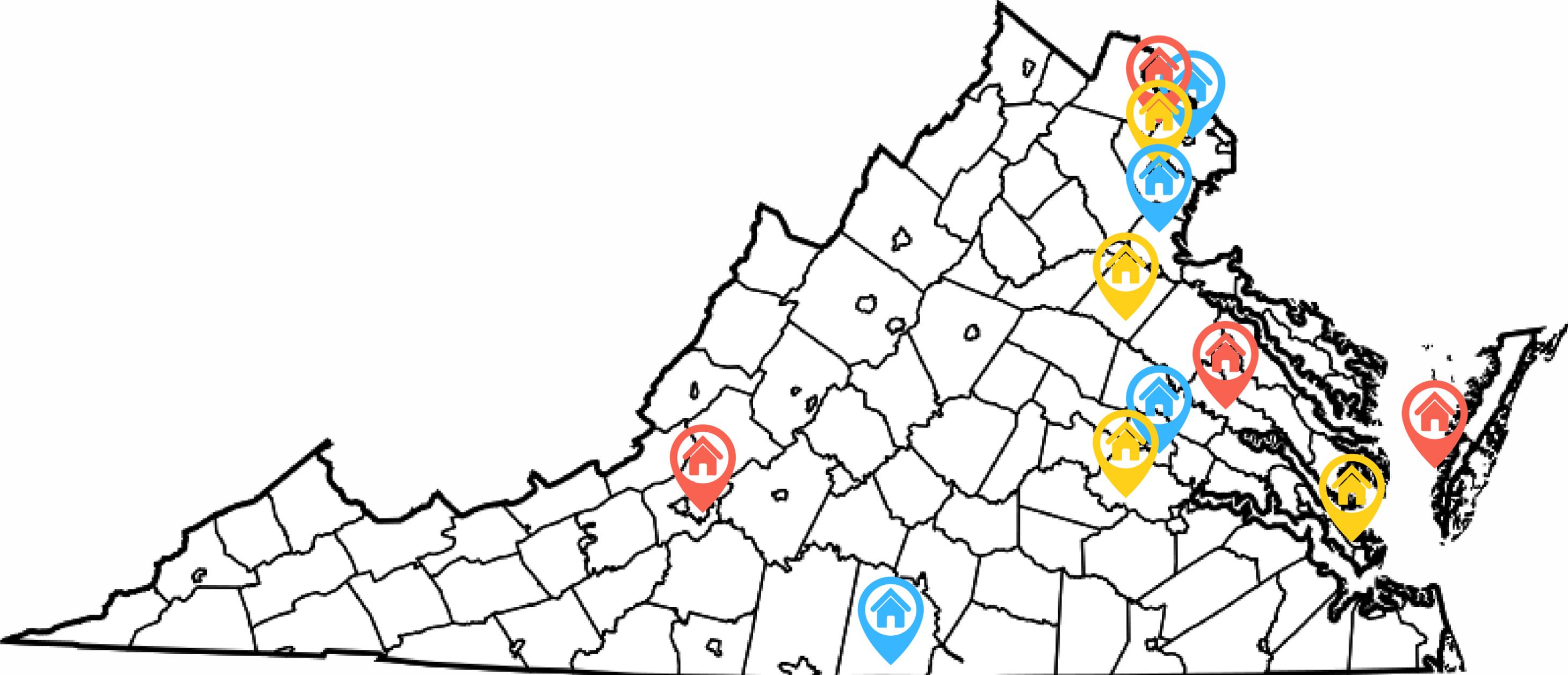
*Numbers reflect lifetime totals during time period of Apr 1, 2022- Sept 18, 2023

Locations of Families who completed Account Registration SFY23



*July 1 2022- June 30, 2023

Families who have identified as a member of any state or federally recognized tribe



Family Tribe	County of Residence	Region	Ramp	Status
Lumbee	Halifax	Piedmont	OnRamp	Incomplete Inquiry
Meherrin	Fairfax	Northern	OffRamp	Prospective-In touch with Fairfax
Chickasaw	Spotsylvania	Northern	OnRamp	Incomplete Inquiry
Zuni	Stafford	Northern	OffRamp	In-Process with Fredericksburg DSS
Lumbee	Northampton	Eastern	OffRamp	Prospective-In touch with Northampton
Rappahannock	King William	Central	OnRamp	Incomplete Inquiry
Patawomeck	Richmond City	Central	OnRamp	Incomplete Inquiry
Sappony	Chesterfield	Central	OffRamp	In-Process with Chesterfield/Colonial Heights DSS
Cherokee, Eastern Band	Fairfax	Northern	OnRamp	Incomplete Inquiry
Blackfeet	Roanoke City	Piedmont	OnRamp	Incomplete Inquiry
Cheroenhaka (Nottoway)	Fairfax	Northern	OnRamp	Incomplete Inquiry
Cheroenhaka (Nottoway)	Newport News	Eastern	OffRamp	Prospective-Family has been unresponsive to Newport News attempts to contact

A scenic view of a road with a guardrail and a green field in the background. The text is overlaid on the image.

TRIBAL COMMUNITIES ARE AN IMPORTANT PART OF THE FOSTER CARE CONTINUUM.

INCREASING THE NUMBER OF FOSTER FAMILIES WHO ARE CONNECTED TO TRIBES WILL HELP CHILDREN MAINTAIN CRITICAL CULTURAL CONNECTIONS AND PROMOTE REUNIFICATION.



Faster Families Highway for Recruitment

the benefits

- Allows for regional coordination and local partnerships with tribal communities.
- Ensure families don't get lost.
- Ensures families with tribal connections are easily identified.
- Brings a streamlined approach to the onboarding process of prospective families.
- Increases the pool of locally approved resource families across Virginia.
- Community building.



Faster Families Highway for Recruitment- ensures prospective foster families get to the right office + the right families get approved to serve children and families in their own communities.



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THANK YOU!!!

Recruitment Re-Imagined

Amy Simpson, Vice President of Programs
Adoption-Share
amy@adoption-share.com
561-715-0148

Anna Tyson, Director
Adoption-Share's Family-Match Program
anna@adoption-share.com
850-374-7041



VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF
SOCIAL SERVICES

Child Advocacy Centers

Quarterly Tribal Roundtable: September 20, 2023



Child Advocacy Center (CAC) Program

Statewide effort to support specialized treatment and services for victims of child abuse and neglect

Child focused facility-based program where representatives from many disciplines meet to discuss and make decisions about the investigation, treatment, intervention, and prosecution of child abuse cases. CACs provide direct services to child abuse victims and non-offending caregivers/family members and assist to prevent further victimization.

Core Components of CACs

- **Separate child-friendly facility**
- **Coordinated multidisciplinary team (MDT) approach**
- **Forensic interviewing model**
- **Evidence-based and trauma-informed best practices**
- **Intensive case review and follow-up**

In addition to MDT collaboration, CACs work with the National Children's Alliance and the statewide NCA affiliate: Children's Advocacy Centers of Virginia.

National Children's Alliance – NCA

www.nationalchildrensalliance.org

WE ARE NCA

**Providing support
and therapy for
kids after abuse**

So they can go back to being kids.



giving
kids
their
future
back.



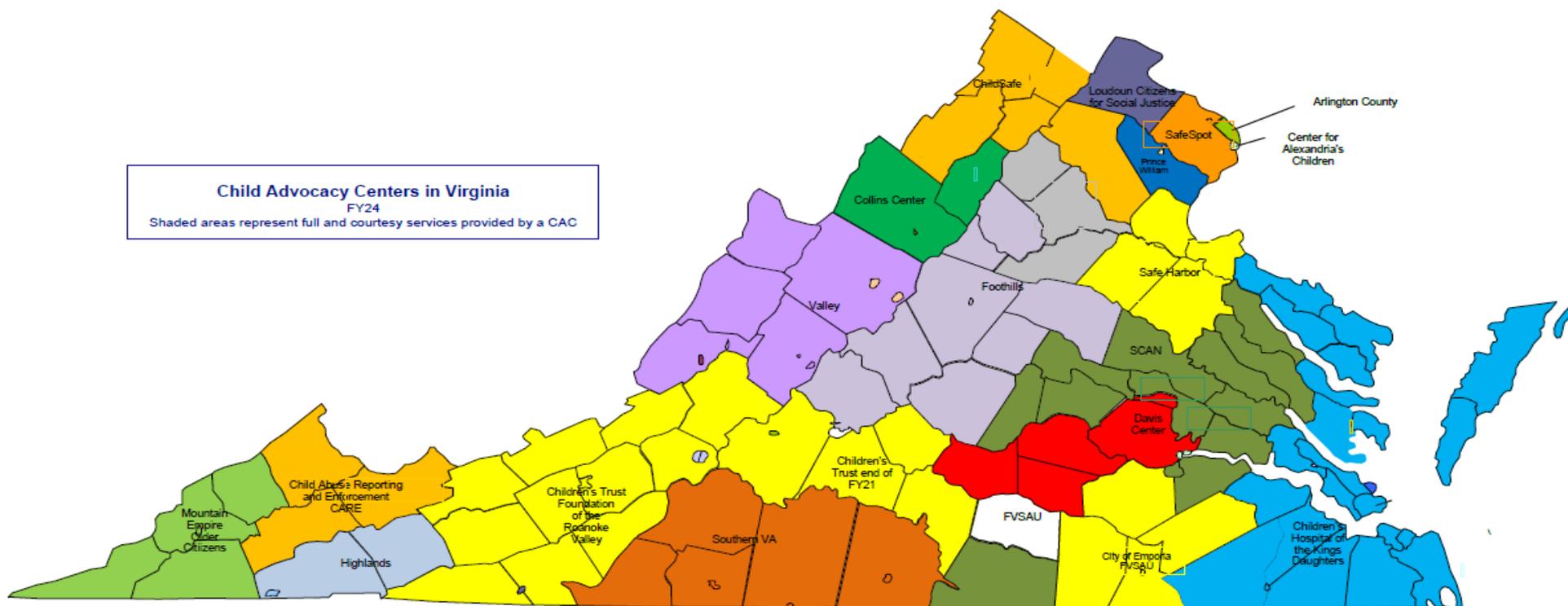
Child Advocacy Centers in Virginia

There are 19 CACs statewide (based in nonprofits, Local Departments of Social Services (LDSS), and in Community Service Boards (CSB)).



Children's Advocacy Centers of Virginia (CACVA) is the statewide association of CACs and provides, education, training, and technical assistance to CACs.

CAC Coverage Area



Child Advocacy Centers Partnerships

- Expanding partnerships with CACVA
- Facilitating communication with LDSS staff and local CACs
- Enhancing training/technical assistance for CACs in Virginia

Additional opportunities for collaboration?

VDSS Contract Administrator
gay.plungas@dss.virginia.gov

CACVA Executive Director
Janice.Dinkins-Davidson@cacva.org

National Children's Alliance
www.nationalchildrensalliance.org

Native Child Advocacy Resource Center
www.nativecac.org



VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF
SOCIAL SERVICES



Division of Family Services

Child Welfare Trafficking Data

Preventing Sex Trafficking and Strengthening Families Act

- Since 2011, 207 victims of sex trafficking identified in child welfare.
- In SFY22, 31 children and youth involved with the child welfare system were identified as victims of sex trafficking.



Human Trafficking Assessment

- Since 2019, local departments have completed 68 Human Trafficking Assessments.
- In SFY22, local departments completed 28 Human Trafficking Assessment involving 31 children.

Child Trafficking Legislation



Three Significant Changes to the Code

§ 63.2-1508 Valid report or complaint.

§ 63.2-1506.1 Trafficking assessment by local departments.

§ 63.2-1517 Authority to take child into custody.

Trafficking Assessment



Universal Prevention Response

- Safety Assessment
- Risk Assessment
- Referrals for Services

Human Trafficking Assessment



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NC

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Universal Prevention Response

- Short-term intervention focused on assessing the safety and risk factors associated with the victim and their parents/guardians.
- It focuses on the victim and their family, not the trafficker.
- LDSS have the flexibility and autonomy to create a response that works best for their community.

Despite the name, it is NOT a specific assessment tool but rather a prevention response.

Enter Report in Child Welfare System

Entry of the Complaint

Document all complaints immediately

Referral Acceptance - HAR333

Associated Referrals

Ref/Inv Name	Ref/Inv Number	Locality of Ref/Inv	Received Date	Investigation Overall Disposition	DRS Risk Assessment
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Screen-Out

Reason: **Human Trafficking Assessment**

Do Not Associate
 Associate with a Case
 Associate with a Referral
 Open a New Case

Associate with Case / Referral Id Number:

Recommendations for Investigations/Family Assessment

Agency Notifications

Other: Select...

Abuse / Neglect Category: Select...

Buttons: Add, Change, Delete, Clear, Confirm, Override..., Chg Priority, Ret, Intak, Ca

Warning dialog: Must select 'Open a New Case' when Screen-Out Reason is Sex Trafficking Assessment. OK

Select Human Trafficking Assessment as the Reason for Screen Out

Opening the Case

Case Type Information

Case Type	Begin Date	End Date
Human Trafficking Assessment	05/27/2019	05/27/2019

Buttons: Cancel, Delete, New, Help

Select Human Trafficking Assessment as the Case Type

Jurisdiction



- If the city or county in Virginia where the alleged child victim of human trafficking resides and the city or county in Virginia where the alleged human trafficking is believed to have occurred or where it was discovered are different, the preferential local department of jurisdiction should be where the child and family/caretaker(s) reside to ensure the provision of services to the child and family.
- Cooperation from the local department of jurisdiction where the alleged human trafficking occurred or is discovered will be required in some cases to ensure the immediate safety of the alleged child victim. The Code of Virginia § 63.2-1506.1 requires that local departments of jurisdiction work jointly together to ensure the completion of the human trafficking assessment.
- When the child and family/caretaker(s) reside outside of Virginia, the local department of jurisdiction shall be the city or county in Virginia where the alleged human trafficking is believed to have occurred or the city or county in Virginia where the alleged human trafficking was discovered.

Youth in Foster Care



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It will be a separate case from the Foster Care case in OASIS.

Jurisdiction for Youth in Foster Care

- Foster Care Worker will make report to the locality where the human trafficking occurred or was discovered. That locality will determine validity. If referral is determined to be invalid, that locality will screen out the referral and open the Human Trafficking Assessment.
- When the locality with custody of the youth and where the trafficking occurred or was discovered are DIFFERENT, the locality with custody of the youth will have the PRIMARY case assignment and the locality where the trafficking occurred or was discovered may have a secondary assignment to ensure the child's immediate safety, if needed.
- When the locality with custody of the youth and where the human trafficking occurred or was discovered are the SAME, the locality can determine what works best in their locality. It is recommended that the Human Trafficking Assessment be a joint case between Foster Care and CPS.

Timeliness of Response

The LDSS must consider and analyze all the information collected at the time the complaint or report is made to determine the most appropriate response for the initiation of the human trafficking assessment to ensure the child's immediate safety.

- The timeliness of response guidelines for a human trafficking assessment will mirror the Response 1 (R1) and Response 3 (R3) priorities utilized by CPS on valid reports of child abuse or neglect.
 - When the safety of the child is in jeopardy or unknown at the time the report or complaint is made to VDSS or the LDSS, the LDSS must commence the human trafficking assessment **as soon as possible within 24 hours** (R1) of the date and time of the complaint or report. For example, when a child has been located by law enforcement and their parent/caretaker(s) is not present, an **immediate** response by the LDSS will be needed to ensure the child's immediate safety.
 - When the safety of the child is not in jeopardy at the time the report or complaint is made to VDSS or the LDSS, the LDSS must commence the human trafficking assessment **as soon as possible within 40 work hours** (Response 3) of the date and time of the complaint or report.
- The LDSS should document the timeliness of their response in OASIS for each complaint or report involving the human trafficking of a child.



Contacts in Human Trafficking Assessment



LDSS should gather information from the following individuals:

- ✓ Alleged victim child.
- ✓ Parent(s) or Guardian(s) of the alleged victim child.
- ✓ Pertinent collaterals.

The information gathered should allow the LDSS to determine:

- ✓ The immediate safety needs of the child.
- ✓ The protective and rehabilitative services needs of the child and the child's family that will deter abuse and neglect.
- ✓ The risk of future harm to the child.

The LDSS should observe the family home environment.
The LDSS should document all contacts and observations in OASIS.

Safety Assessment

Safety Assessment

- ✓ Conduct at the beginning of a Human Trafficking Assessment.
- ✓ Complete the SDM Safety Assessment Tool in OASIS
- ✓ Safety Assessment informs Safety Plan



Immediate Safety Considerations in Human Trafficking

- Were the parent or guardian involved in any way in the human trafficking of child, including whether they were aware, participated in, or facilitated the trafficking of the child?
- Had the child run away from home prior to being trafficked? Did the child run away due to physical, mental, or sexual abuse at home?
- Had the parent or guardian done everything they knew how to do in order to prevent the child from running away or ensure the child's safe return?
- Can the parent or guardian protect the child from the trafficker?
- Is it safe for the child to return home?

Risk Assessment and Referrals for Services

Risk Assessment

- **Conduct before completion of the Human Trafficking Assessment.**
- **Complete the SDM Risk Assessment Tool in OASIS.**
- **Risk Assessment informs Service Needs.**

Referrals for Services

- Referrals for protective or rehabilitative services.
- Child and family should consent to referrals.
- Referrals should consider the special service needs of children who have been trafficked



Service Considerations for Children who have been Trafficked:



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Service Considerations

- Physical Health
- Mental Health and Trauma
- Education
- Legal Services
- Other Needs

Prevention or In-Home Services Case may be provided to the child and family after the completion of the Human Trafficking Assessment.



Questions

Youth Services Programs

Chafee Funded Services



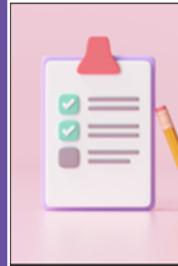
Chafee Program



Credit Checks and
Credit Freezes



Education & Training
Voucher (ETV) Program



National Youth in
Transition Database
(NYTD)



SPEAKOUT – Virginia's
Youth Advisory Board



Youth Exit Survey

Chafee Program Purpose

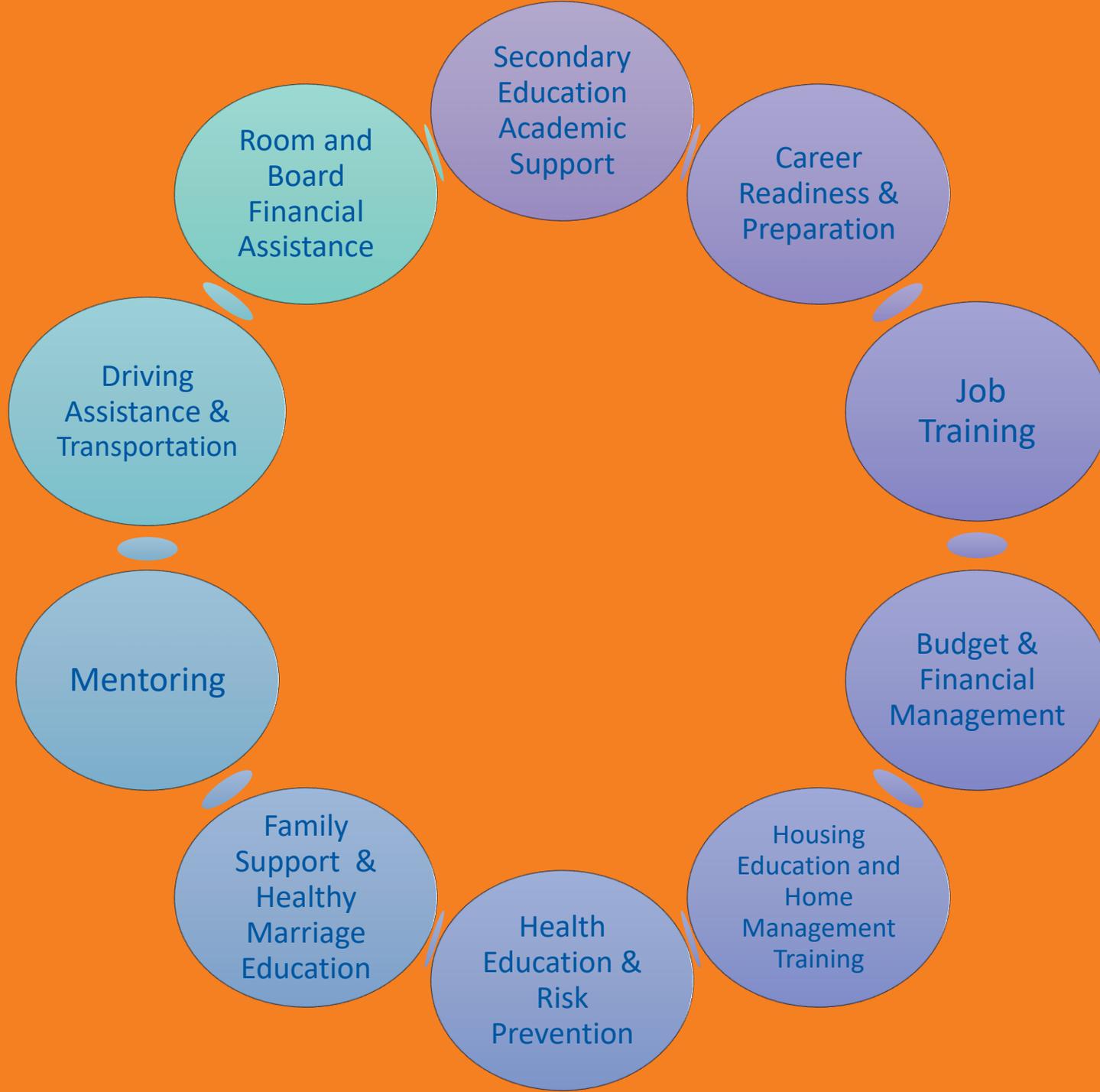
The John H. **Chafee Program** for Successful Transition to Adulthood (the Chafee Program), provides funding to states and participating Tribes, to offer services and supports all youth who experience foster care at age 14 or older and who **transition out of foster care, up to age 23**. The purpose of this program is to empower youth by offering resources and supports to meet the youth's individual needs to help them succeed by providing flexible funding for the following:

1. Helping youth attain a high school diploma and post-secondary education or vocational training;
2. Training and opportunities to practice daily living skills such as financial literacy and driving instruction;
3. Achieving meaningful, permanent connections with caring adults;
4. Engaging in age and developmentally appropriate activities which promote positive youth development; and
5. Experiential learning that reflects what their peers in intact families' experience.

ELIGIBLE RECIPIENTS:

- Youth/young adult in foster care age 14 years older
- Young adults formerly in foster care, not yet 23 years old
- Youth who were adopted or participated in Virginia's Kinship Care Program (KinGAP) after the age of 16





Education and Training Voucher (ETV) Program

The **Education and Training Voucher (ETV)** is a grant, funded by the federal government and administered by the states and Tribes, awarded to eligible youth and young adults currently and formerly in foster care to help pay for college, career school, or training.

Eligible youth may receive **up to** \$5,000 a year based on their cost of attendance.

Program Requirements

- ❖ Eligible Youth - Youth up to age 26 enrolled in or planning to enroll in post-secondary education.
- ✓ Have a high school diploma or GED
- ✓ Complete and sign an ETV Student Application
- ✓ Eligible for services under Virginia's Chafee Program
- ✓ Adopted from foster care or entered KinGAP (kinship care), at 16 years old or older
- ✓ Have a written transition plan in the youth's case record
- ✓ Receive and maintain a satisfactory grade point average (2.0 on a 4.0 scale)
- ✓ Apply for financial aid (if appropriate)

